Requirement of Wagons

1419. SHRI DIPANKER MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2230 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1994 and state:

(a) the number of wagons which have been condemned so far during the year 1994-95;

(b) how many additional wagons were required during 1994-95 for conversion from meter-gauge to broad-guage; and

(c) what would be the additional requirement of broad-gauge metre-guage wagons during the coming five years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) 21656 wagons (BG) have been condemned till February 1995 during the year 1994-95.

(b) Wagon requirement is assessed on the freight target and the anticipated wagon utilisation level on a global basis.

(c) Total wagon requirement for the Eighth Plan period has been assessed at 81,000. No wagon is proposed for acquisition for MG system and wagons are planned only for the BG sytem. No assessment of wagon requirements beyond VIII Plan period has been done.

Introdcution of a Superfast Train between Kanyakumari and Delhi via Madurai

1420. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a superfast train between Kanyakumari and New Delhi, Via Erode and Madurai;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any traffic survey has been conducted to find out the passenger needs in the section, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No,, Sir.

(b) Operational and resource constraints.

(c) No, Sir.

Konkan Railway Project

1421. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Konkan Railway would be completed and become operational for passenger traffic;

(b) by when Government would connect Bombay direct with South Tamil Nadu, without break at Erode

(c) the details of the traffic plan for connecting Bombay-Kanya Kumari via Erode-Madurai; and

(d) what are the specific reasons for not connecting Southern Tamil Nadu directly with Bombay via Erode?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) (a) It is targetted for 31-12-1995.

(b) and (c) Bombay-Nagercoil Express (weekly) via Wadi-Dharmavaram-Erode-Madurai will be introduced from July, 95 Time Table.

(d) Does not arise.